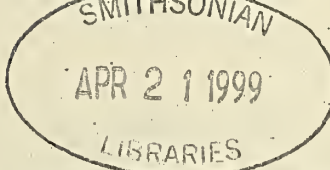


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NEWSLETTER

for members of the Carolina Bird Club, Inc., ornithological society of the Carolinas

Volume 45

January/February 1999

Number 1

Piedmont Birding in the Spring

It's a fresh spring morning. A front moved through the night before. Cape May Warblers are dripping from the trees. Ovenbirds and Veeries are walking around under a nearby canopy of shrubs. Orioles are singing from the tree tops. As I sit on the bank of a small stream I am treated to a parade of jeweled neotropical migrants coming into the stream for their morning bath. Warblers include redstarts, magnolias, Cape Mays, yellow-throated, black and white, blackpolls, black-throated greens and blues, parulas, and palm. Others joining the parade include orioles (Baltimore and orchard), Great-crested Flycatchers, gnatcatchers, and local residents such as Red-headed Woodpeckers, cardinals, mockingbirds, etc.

All these birds on a good day during migration are not really remarkable. What is remarkable is this idyllic spot is in the heart of Charlotte. Latta Park is a small city park nestled in an older community called Dilworth. It is only about six short blocks long (not including the baseball field at one end) and a block and a half wide at most. There is a small stream which goes through the heart of the park which has pockets of shrubs on its banks and there are "plantings" of shrubs scattered around. But what is most remarkable about the park are the enormous trees that shade it - oaks, tulip poplars and sweet gums. The combination of water and big trees seems to make this park a migrant magnet in the heart of the city. It's a great place to take new birders to see warblers up close and personal. And if you are lucky enough to be there at bathing time you don't even get warbler neck.

Although Latta Park is what I call

"quick and dirty" birding, the Metrolina area (Charlotte, Gastonia and Rock Hill) includes a wide range of good birding spots. There's everything from the lunch time spots such as the University City Pond, Freedom and Marshal Parks to take in the local residents to more remote areas such as Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge on the shores of Mountain Island Lake. Charlotte also has miles of greenways which host a wide variety of habitats. The area also boasts of several unique piedmont habitats including a restored piedmont prairie where an endangered sunflower has been reintroduced. And then there are the "gardens" - Winghaven, Daniel Stowe, Ann Springs Close, Ribbon Walk Botanical Forest and Van Landingham Glen at the University. These and many more "special" sites make birding in Charlotte a rewarding experience most any time of the year but especially in the spring.

There is a long and proud history of birding in the Charlotte area. It has one of the oldest Christmas Counts in the state with nearly 60 years of data. The official tally of species seen and documented in the county is 284 with several additional species seen in neighboring counties. But time has brought many changes to this piedmont area. And that will be the theme of the Friday night meeting. **David Wright** has been birding in this area since he was a child. With his father, also an avid birder, David has traipsed all over this county discovering many avian treasures. Currently living on Lake Norman he keeps vigilant watch over the comings and goings of birds on the lake. Some of his more recent discoveries have included a Franklin's Gull on the Christmas Count and a Parasitic Jaeger this past fall while

wining and dining some new business acquaintances. David will share with us some of the past glories of the area as well as talk about how development has impacted the area for both good and ill. Since David is fond of taking videos this will probably be a multimedia presentation.

Dove tailing on the theme of urban/suburban development, **Lisa Beckstrom** will share with us her research on neotropical migrants in the piedmont. As a graduate student at the University of North Carolina Charlotte, Lisa studied the foraging habits of the neotropical migrants at the Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge along the Catawba River. She will talk about the importance of river/stream corridors (especially in urbanized areas) to neotropical migrants.

Headquarters for this spring piedmont event will be the Woodlawn Holiday Inn located at Woodlawn and I-85. This is an older "Holidome" type hotel with a lovely indoor pool and patio area as well as a nice conference area where we will be holding our gatherings. Rooms are \$74.00 plus 12% tax. Reservations should be made by April 8th to guarantee this rate. The number for making reservations is 1-800-847-7829 or 704-525-8350.

Complete details on field trips, etc. will be posted on the website along with a few pictures to entice you all and in the next newsletter. If you have any questions, contact Judy Walker at 704-547-2559 (W); 704-537-8181 (H); or email: jwalker@email.uncc.edu.

So mark your calendars now for good time birding in the Queen City April 25-27, 1999.

CBC Newsletter

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CBC Rare Bird Alert

(704) 332-BIRD

First Year of Carolina Birding

by Karen Bearden

For me, important things to look for before moving to a new city and state are do they have a local Audubon Society and bird club! It has been a year since Joe and I moved to Raleigh, North Carolina from Boca Raton, Florida. We wanted beautiful trees with chickadees and titmice. Raleigh is a nice piedmont location between the beach and mountains. I recall some NC birders saying I would be bored compared to birding in Florida. No way!! Not when I can enjoy the activities of Carolina Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, Downy Woodpeckers, Carolina Wrens, Eastern Towhees, and Eastern Bluebirds in my yard!!

We joined Wake County Audubon Society and Carolina Bird Club right away. I was happy to learn about the Carolinabirds listserv. What a great tool for birders new to the state to ask questions and learn about new birding places. Thanks Will!! I had 20 responses on where to find Red-headed Woodpeckers in the Triangle area. Of course every place was a new discovery for us! YIPPEE!!

We live close to Shelly Lake with a greenway trail for local birding. It was neat to see a Brown Pelican on our first trip to Falls Lake! I was thrilled to see Common Loons, my favorite bird, winter on local lakes. The ponds along Aviation Parkway and Lake Wheeler Road are great for ducks in winter. It was exciting to see juncos, White-throated Sparrows, Cedar Waxwings, Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets our first winter from the kitchen window! It was our first cold Christmas Bird Count. I was glad it didn't snow!

We had been in Raleigh only two months when we had to bird the famous Outer Banks and Lake Mattamuskeet! Imagine our excitement to see a large flock of Tundra Swans (a life bird) for the first time. We watched streams of Northern Gannets from our hotel window in Nags Head. I love ducks, so the Outer Banks is a great place to bird! It was great to see some of my favorites like Snowy and Great Egrets again.

One of my favorite parts of birding is the people I meet along the way. That's why I look forward to CBC meetings. We've been to Litchfield Beach, Asheville, and Elkin. Each time we meet new birders and catch up with birders we met earlier. The meetings are well organized with speakers and field trips. There is a diverse group of birders. It's fun to share our passion of birding!!! My favorite birds seen on the trips so far have been the beautiful Red-throated Loons at Murrell's Inlet, SC and the colorful warblers on the Stecoah Gap trip led by Simon Thompson outside Asheville.

We spent a week birding along the Blue Ridge Parkway after the CBC meeting in Asheville. I loved seeing Chestnut-sided Warblers, Pine Siskins, both kinglets, and Grey Catbirds outside our room at the Pisgah Lodge. In the summer we made day trips to Greenville, NC for Henslow Sparrow and Wilmington, NC for Painted Bunting, and a weekend trip to Emerald Isle for summer shorebirds and herons.

It's been fun learning about birdfeeding and nesting of common backyard birds. I joined Cornell's Project Feederwatch. The chickadees and titmice generally land on the feeder just long enough to grab a seed and they're off in a hurry. Then the darn Starlings, Mourning Doves, and House Finches sit and gobble all the food! It was nice to wake to the songs of robins and cardinals once spring arrived. April was exciting with lots of colorful goldfinches everyday. We had bluebirds, chickadees, and titmice using nest boxes in our yard. Their behavior changed in spring with singing and territorial battles. The male bluebird, especially, chased other birds away from the suet and perches close to his nest. I fell in love with the active, friendly Brown-headed Nuthatches. It was a joy to see Blue Jay, mockingbird, cardinal, and towhee kids being fed by their parents. August had less activity in our yard. The beginning of fall brought about more activity at the feeders again. I keep a daily journal so it will be fun to compare the upcoming year from our first year in North Carolina.

January 8, 1999. This first column of the new year will be pitifully short. Our yard has been quiet and I guess everyone else's has too because I have received little news from fellow backyard birders. Any guilt trips out there? Good, that's what I wanted.

The only significant thing that happened in our yard occurred Dec. 21, 1998. CJ was outside, and the little trees beside our house were filled with noise. He stood still for a while and watched Ruby and Golden-crowned kinglets, juncos and White-throated Sparrows flit in and out of the branches. Accompanying these "winter" birds were our regular chickadees, titmice, Carolina Wrens and a cardinal or two. It was a fantastic sight and sound, and the only occurrence when we've been around.

I did receive a short note from **Jim and Marilyn Bardsley**, Murrells Inlet, SC, who have two bluebird houses. One of the houses had four abandoned eggs and the other had only one fledgling. Both parents and the fledgling left one day and never

Backyard Birding

with Frances J. Nelson



returned to the house. Another nesting produced three fledglings. The parents of these could have been the parents of the one fledgling, meaning they did, indeed, return to the house. The Bardsleys did see seven bluebirds in the area and wondered if these were the birds from their houses. I'd say probably so, but to be sure, the birds would have to be banded. When CJ and I

lived in a place where we had bluebird houses, we just assumed the bluebirds that nested in the houses were the same ones. They seemed to know their way around the property and always showed their babies where the birdbath was located, teaching the young ones the rudiments of public bathing.

The Bardsleys also iterated an interesting hummer story. One day the Bardsleys were sitting on their screened porch when a hummer, chasing another around one of two feeders near the porch, stuck beak first into the screen. It was stuck about ten seconds with the other hummer hovering about six inches behind. Marilyn was about to try to push the hummer out when it "winged in reverse" and backed out by itself. Amazing. Those little critters are much tougher than they look.

And that's it for backyard birding this time. I told you it would be short. Now, get those stories to me at *2061 Ferbow Street, Creedmoor, NC, (919) 528-1156, or fjnelson@wpo.nccu.edu*

Third Annual Bio-Blitz on the Blue Ridge Parkway

What Is A Bio-Blitz? - A Bio-Blitz is a 24-hour event held over two days to find and record as many different species as possible within a designated area. Specialists from a variety of fields will comb the woods (and meadows and streams and ...) in search of the common and the unusual. A Blitz will provide valuable information on species and ecosystems found on the Parkway.

Who's Involved? - The Blitz is sponsored by the staff of the Blue Ridge Parkway, a unit of the National Park Service. Experts in a variety of natural science fields from local universities and colleges, state and federal agencies, private organizations and clubs, and individuals are invited to attend. Last year we had more than 30 people representing seven specialties participate in the first Bio-Blitz!

Why Are We Having a Bio-Blitz?

1. We don't know how to identify the different taxa you all do. You're the experts with the knowledge to identify

things we've never even heard of. We'd like to take advantage of that expertise.

2. Our job is to protect the natural resources in our park. Unless we know what's out there, it's awfully hard to protect it. Your species lists will tell us what we have and what to be concerned about.

3. It will be fun!!! Normally fun isn't supposed to be a justification for a scientific endeavor, yet we're looking forward to getting in the field with old acquaintances and making new friends. What could be better than walking through the woods with fellow naturalists looking at the plants and animals?

Why Should You Come?

1. It's a great chance to meet face-to-face with people you've talked to on the phone or whose publications you've read. Spend the day with your colleagues. Develop new personal and professional relationships.

2. Learn something about your local area. People often think of the Parkway as just a road and mowed shoulders. There's more to it than that. Come on out and see what's out here.

3. It will be fun!!!

When Will It Occur? - The Bio-Blitz will begin at 3:00 p.m. Friday May 14, 1999 and end 24 hours later at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday May 15. Searchers are welcome to come out for as long as they wish and during whatever time period their species are most observable. A close-out session will begin at 1:30 PM on the 15th. to give everyone a chance to tell what they found.

Where Will It Take Place? - This year's Blitz will be at Crabtree Meadows (about halfway between Mt. Mitchell and Spruce Pine). The area contains developed areas, forests, meadows, and streams. Something for everyone.

We'd love to see you out here. To register or to get more information please call Bob Cherry at 704/295-7591 or e-mail at Bob_Cherry@nps.gov or fax a note to 828/295-0337 or Lillian McElrath at 828/765-6082. Please indicate your field of interest.

Lake Mattamuskeet Field Trip Report



"Plan to attend the Carolina Bird Club Field trip to Lake Mattamuskeet.

Rates: \$7.25 for single room with bath and 3 meals; \$6.25 for single room without bath, and 3 meals; \$5.75 double room (each), no bath, 3 meals. Separate meals: breakfast, .85; lunch, \$1.25; supper, \$1.75."

Right place, wrong time. The above quotes are from the November, 1949 issue of *The Chat* advertising the January 21-22, 1950, CBC field trip to Lake Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge in Hyde County, NC. At that time the Lodge could accomodate 70.

The rates for the November 14-15, 1998, CBC field trip to Lake Mattamuskeet were still very reasonable, but the partially restored Lodge could only accomodate 22 CBC members after they had exiled two Notre Dame grad students to sleep in the Refuge office.

Birders had been reporting all kinds of goodies in the days prior to the trip - White Pelican, Black-headed Gull and Yellow-headed Blackbird. However, in spite of heroic efforts by field trip leader, **Harry LeGrand**, none of these rarities could be relocated. The list for Saturday



Mattamuskeet field trip participants scan for rarities - Photo by Dave Lovett, Charlotte

and Sunday did include 100 species and more than 100,000 individual birds.

Nancy Iha and **Erika Parmi** added a Barred Owl to their weekend list on the drive back to Brevard, NC. Nancy noted that although it is not unusual to see a Barred Owl during the daylight, it was the first one she had seen on a telephone line along a heavily traveled street. This owl

was hanging out on Highway 17 N in Washington, NC.

Dave Lovett of Charlotte, NC, who was attending his first CBC field trip, especially enjoyed the fellowship with other birders. He expressed the feelings of the group when he thanked trip organizer, **Gail Lankford**, for a job well done.

Nominating Committee Appointed

The CBC executive committee has approved the appointment of a nominating committee by president Bert Fisher. Chairman of the committee is **Paula Wright** of Greenville, NC, phone (252) 756-5139, e-mail jwright@skantech.net. Members are **Susan Mitchell** of Pisgah Forest, NC, phone (828) 884-4749, e-mail sachem@citcom.net and **Van Atkins** of Charleston, SC, phone (843) 766-7000, e-mail, vatkins@awod.com.

The offices which are subject to election where the incumbents are not eligible for reelection are: president, vice-

president (ENC) and member-at-large (SC). The offices for which the incumbents are eligible for reelection are: secretary, treasurer, member-at-large (ENC) and member-at-large (WNC). All current members of the executive committee are listed on the masthead of the Newsletter.

The elected officers, along with the immediate past president, and the editors of *The Chat* and *CBC Newsletter*, constitute the executive committee, which is the governing body of CBC charged with formulating and executing policy. In

addition to their responsibilities as members of the executive committee, the vice-president and two members-at-large in each region (ENC, WNC, SC) constitute a regional meeting committee with the responsibility to plan seasonal meetings scheduled in their region.

If you are willing to serve in one of the open positions, or if you know a member that you would like to recommend, please contact one of the members of the nominating committee as soon as possible. The annual election will be held at the spring meeting in Charlotte, NC, April 24.

Partners in Flight: Call for Assistance

Experienced birders needed for spring migration study: Forest Obligate Neotropical Migrants in the Southeastern United States

Migrating birds don't just fly. They also stop, rest, and feed. Successful migration for species requiring forest habitats depends on suitable stopover habitat all along the inland migration route. The southeastern United States — Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida — is an important part of the migration route for many Neotropical migrants. Yet we know almost nothing about habitat requirements during migration: Which habitats are best? Which habitats will be used in extreme emergency? What is the extent of remaining forest habitats? Is the size and shape of an individual forest patch important? How are forested habitats arranged along the migration route? To answer these questions, we need a regional perspective that encompasses the distribution of suitable stopover habitats and what makes those areas suitable.

Surveying such a broad study area is a truly daunting task, which is why we need your help. Using satellite imagery and computer mapping techniques, we have developed a 'picture' of forest habitats across the southeast that we believe assesses patch-level habitat qualities important to migrants. The next step is to examine individual forest areas on the

ground, to determine if our 'picture' is accurate, and to discover ways that we can improve it. This is where you come in:

Volunteers Needed!!

PIF needs volunteers from across the southeast to bird forest patches in their area. Before spring migration 1999 begins, we will send a map that highlights a group of local forest patches. Volunteers will select three patches that are easily accessible, visit each area once during migration, and record the species and number of individuals they see. That's it. No laying out transects, no timed counts at established points: just doing what we birders do best. Surveys should be conducted in the morning hours; as we know from experience, this is when the birds are most active. Participating in this study will give the volunteers an opportunity to bird in areas they may have never considered, and it will give us the critical information we need. The contact

for this study, Roger Tankersley, is working on a PhD. in Geography at the University of Tennessee. The results of the field surveys will help to verify models that are part of his dissertation. Sometime during or just after migration, Roger and an assistant will visit each locale to meet with volunteers and talk about some of their favorite spots for migrant birding, and to ask if they have noticed a change in migration during recent years. This will give us first-hand experience of many areas, and allow the volunteers to share their considerable knowledge about local habitats.

Respond to:

Partners in Flight Spring Migration Survey

c/o Roger Tankersley
2924 Jenkins St.
Knoxville, TN 37921
(423) 632-1427
email: rdtanker@utk.edu

PIF would greatly appreciate your help. We are birders ourselves, and realize that there is not much time to spare during migration. So we are asking for just one trip to each forest patch, and a simple checklist report listing species and numbers of individuals. Please consider participating in this important study.

Shorebird Superheroes

In April of 1998 we reported the recapture of a Red Knot by an Argentinean scientist that had originally been banded at Reeds Beach, Delaware (USA) nine years before. Not only did this indicate the potential long life of a shorebird but it confirmed that they are capable of migrating a total of at least 180,000 miles (396,000 km) over their life and still keep going strong.

Now we can confirm that a Semipalmated Sandpiper originally banded by a Manomet biologist on Plymouth Beach, Massachusetts (USA) in

August, 1984 was recaptured and released at Itamarca, Brazil in November of 1995. This small shorebird was at least 12 years old and still flying with the flock!

Considering the considerable mileage on these birds and the uncountable hazards they have successfully evaded over the years, these birds are clearly . . .

Shorebird Superheroes!

Don Crockett, Editor/WebMaster
The Virtual Birder, Brookline, MA

History for Sale

Have you joined the Carolina Bird Club since 1986? If so, you probably don't have a copy of the Summer 1986 issue of *The Chat*. That issue contains the article "The First 50 Years: A Brief History of Carolina Bird Club" by Eloise Potter and a list of the 102 charter members of the North Carolina Bird Club.

This bit of history can be yours, but only if you attend a seasonal meeting of the club where it is being sold for \$2 each. Gail Lankford is currently working on an updating of this article which will be published in the Newsletter.

A Brief History of the CBC Sanctuary Property

by Bob Wood

This is a brief summary of the history of the ownership by the Carolina Bird Club of land near Tryon, N.C. A more detailed history can be found on the club's web site.

On December 29, 1965, Helen Shuford Brown and her new husband Ralph Brown (both of Rye, New Hampshire), deeded 55 acres near Tryon to the Carolina Bird Club in memory of Mrs. Brown's deceased first husband, Robert Lee Shuford, Jr. The conveyance was by a general warranty deed without any restrictions. This property is adjacent to St. Luke's Hospital. Also adjacent to the property was a 31-acre tract owned by Mrs. Brown. It had a vacant house, swimming pool, barn, garage, and various sheds. Mrs. Brown leased the house and surrounding 31 acres to the CBC for \$1/year with the understanding that the CBC would keep up the house. The CBC could use the property for any use permitted in its by-laws, those being stated as primarily for the development of resources for nature study and the preservation of wildlife. Also apparently as a part of the agreement, Mrs. Brown intended to deed the 31-acre tract (with the house and pool) to the CBC in undivided gifts consistent with her tax needs. It seems to have been an oral agreement never put in writing.

On February 11, 1966, Norme Frost, then President of CBC, signed a resolution stating that on December 30, 1965, Mrs. Helen Shuford had graciously donated her 83-acre homestead to the CBC "for its perpetuation as a wildlife sanctuary and conservation project," but the resolution stated that there "can be no stipulations accompanying transfers of any property being donated to a non-profit organization for tax deduction purposes." (Note that this is not right: Only 55 acres had been conveyed at that time, and the rest was in the process of being conveyed over many years.) The Executive Committee also resolved that the site where the ashes of Mrs. Brown's late husband were buried would be preserved by the CBC and that

Mrs. Shuford be privileged to be buried there as well.

In the meantime, a member of the CBC actually lived in the vacant house for awhile, and Norme Frost tirelessly kept up the premises. In 1968, The CBC ran into trouble finding money to maintain the house, so after long discussions, Mr. and Mrs. Brown and the CBC reached a new agreement whereby the old lease was changed to be a 99-year lease and the CBC subleased the house and immediately surrounding areas back to the Browns. The Browns were to take over the job of maintaining the house and buildings and paying taxes, but the CBC would have the right to develop the property in accordance with its bylaws. The Browns continued to plan to donate the house, pool and surrounding land to the CBC outright, over time, as their tax needs allowed. Mrs. Brown also had the right, now, to live in the house. Mrs. Brown continued to make gifts to the CBC of undivided interests in the land.

For some reason in 1974 Mrs. Brown felt that she only had the right to live in the house during her lifetime, and she asked the CBC to extend her sublease for the lifetime of her children, Carla and Robert. This wish met with resistance from the CBC and caused conflict between Mrs. Brown and Carla and the CBC for the next 10 years. It would ultimately result in what people call the "Settlement," finalized in 1984.

The Executive Committee almost immediately turned down Mrs. Brown's 1974 request, afraid that the request might later be extended to her grandchildren and so on. Mrs. Brown asked again the next year. With this new request, she criticized an idea espoused by some CBC members that the property be developed for nature education, bird study, and managing the woods according to US Department of Forestry recommendations. She wrote, "Nothing could be further from my mind. I had hoped to preserve it in a state of nature as an island of green with only the minimal upkeep of annual mowing to

retain the diversity of open land and woodland." President Pat Probst responded to Mrs. Brown by saying that the Executive Committee would reconsider her request for an extension of the life tenancy and that its "decision will be final." He questioned whether it was sufficient to leave the property alone, in its current state. He felt that there were many uses to which the property could be put without changing the nature of the property to any great extent.

The Executive Committee then turned down Mrs. Brown's request to extend what everybody thought was a lease of the house for Mrs. Brown's lifetime. Mrs. Brown countered by asking that she have a lease until 1988, regardless of whether she lived that long. Mrs. Brown then made another undivided gift to the CBC of another portion of the value of the land, and the Executive Committee turned down her request for an extension of the lease.

The next year (1978) Mrs. Brown gave another undivided portion of the value of the land. Soon thereafter, though, she gave her interest in the remaining value of the land to her daughter, Carla. Carla then mentioned the possibility of "partitioning" the property, a legal process where the land would be divided among the two owners so that they no longer shared common ownership. Carla also raised the possibility that the deeds to the CBC were defective and that she might be able to get all of the property back. The Executive Committee agreed in principle that a partition would be appropriate, but the Committee and Carla engaged in a heated, years-long debate over how to divide the property.

In 1980, Carla deeded the house and surrounding 6 acres back to her mother. In 1984, the CBC and Mrs. Brown agreed that Mrs. Brown would get the house and the 6 acres surrounding it, and the CBC would get the rest of the property, without any restrictions. A question arose about the tax effect of a return of the property to the family who had taken the tax

(continued on next page)

History (continued)

benefits of the gift and then gotten the property back, but the IRS approved the transfer.

Specifically, 25.86 acres near the house would go to the CBC, resulting in the CBC having a total of 82.25 acres "free and clear of any restrictions" except for (1) an agreement to allow the Browns to pipe water to the house from a well on CBC property; (2) the Browns would have access to a small burial plot; (3) the CBC would have access to its property from State Road 1514; and (4) Mrs. Brown had to maintain the burial site and a road across her property. A number of participants have referred to this transaction as "The Settlement." In a letter written in 1997, Mrs. Brown called the failure of the settlement to include restrictions on the use of the property a "gross oversight," but it appears that she meant on her part because the Executive Committee expressly considered the fact that the land was being received without restrictions.

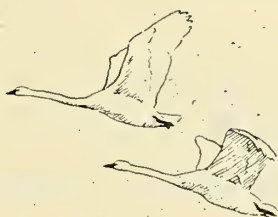
In 1991, Robert Shuford wrote a letter to CBC President Robin Carter asking whether the CBC intended to honor his mother's request that the property be used as a sanctuary. The letter appears to overlook the fact that unrestricted ownership and control were given to the CBC as a part of the 1984 settlement. Robin nonetheless appointed a committee chaired by Simon Thompson to study the use of the property.

In early 1993, Bob McSherry of FENCE (Foothills Equestrian Nature

Center) in Tryon asked CBC to consider allowing FENCE to use the property as part of a bird study and education project. The next year FENCE presented a proposal whereby CBC and FENCE would jointly develop the property as a bird education and study area. At first the area would feature trails but would eventually include a pond, boardwalks, and renovation of existing buildings. FENCE budgeted \$5000 to get the project started.

In 1995 the Executive Committee received an appraisal indicating that the property was worth about \$100,000. The Committee told FENCE that it could use the property only on a limited short-term basis if FENCE built a small parking lot and obtained insurance. FENCE declined to accept the conditions imposed by the Executive Committee and abandoned the project on CBC property.

Mrs. Brown died in January 1998, and the attorney for Mrs. Brown's estate reiterated to CBC President Bert Fisher that Mrs. Brown had desired that the land remain a sanctuary. His letter does not refer to the 1984 settlement but instead to Mrs. Brown's intentions in the 1960s and 1970s. In late 1998, Robert Shuford offered to buy the land back from the Club for \$80,000 and promised to put a perpetual conservation easement on it.



Get Your Name Set in Stone

The North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences is offering a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to get your name inscribed in stone on the new Museum under construction in downtown Raleigh. Plus you'll be helping complete new exhibits for the largest natural history museum in the Southeast!

Founded in 1879 as the first state museum, the Museum of Natural Sciences' mission is to provide educational information about the state's biodiversity and to promote conservation. The new Museum will open in October 1999.

A Donor Walk will be constructed outside the new building. For a tax-deductible donation of \$100 a name can be inscribed on this low stone wall, offering permanent recognition for Museum supporters. One might choose to honor a family member, a friend, a teacher, or an environmental group. For details, please call Leslie Bullock at (919) 733-7450, extension 377. Or visit the Museum's Web site at <http://www.naturalsciences.org/stone.htm>.

CBC Web Site

<http://members.aol.com/cbirdclub>

Membership Application and Order Form

Name _____ Address _____
(If family membership, give name of each person included.)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel. () _____ () _____
(home) (business)

E-mail address _____

Enter/Renew Membership As Indicated:

Send Materials Indicated:

____ Individual (\$15)	____ Affiliate Club (\$20)	____ CBC Cloth arm patch \$2.00 ea.
____ Family (\$20)	____ Contributing (\$35)	____ CBC Decals (vinyl stick-on) \$2.00 ea., \$1.75 ea. in quantity
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